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April 17, 1990

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York City, New York 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Thank you for your note "Echo from dim past" and the copies of your correspondence with Eugene Knox. Your letter was even more of an echo from the dim past for me than you might have guessed: I spent the summer of 1958, fresh out of college, working in Dr. Knox's lab. I still recall his telling me, in response to my innocent question whether protein levels could change, that they did indeed adapt to substrate levels, and that he found that adaptation much more interesting than the intrinsically boring facts of intermediary metabolism!

Sincerely,

Jared M. Diamond
Professor of Physiology

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